

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 OMB-01 EUR-12 IGA-02 AID-05

USIA-06 H-02 /079 W

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R 261139Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1208

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY SANA

SECDEF

CNO

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

CINCUSNAVEUR

S E C R E T DOHA 0094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR BA QA

SUBJ: REGIONAL SUPPORT FOR MIDEASTFOR: QATAR

REF: STATE 17267

1. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OVER PAST FEW MONTHS, I HAVE DIRECTLY
QUERIED AMIR OF QATAR RE GOQ POSITION ON CONTINUED PRESENCE
OF MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN. ON EACH OCCASION, AMIR HAS RESPONDED
THAT US NAVAL PRESENCE IN GULF WOULD NO LONGER BE A PROBLEM
ONCE US HAS SUCCESSFULLY CATALYZED MID EAST SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE

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TO ARABS. ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BEG QUESTION, AMIR DOES SINCERELY BELIEVE

THAT AMERICAN MILLENNIUM IN AREA WILL MOST CERTAINLY RESULT
IF WE ABLE TO PULL OF MID EAST SETTLEMENT.

2. RE POSSIBILITY OF GOQ'S ACTIVELY LOBBYING, PUBLICLY OR
PRIVATELY, FOR RETENTION OF MIDEASTFOR IN BAHRAIN, THIS HIGHLY
UNLIKELY. NO MORE SHOULD BE READ INTO GOQ'S RECENT DECISION
TO PERMIT RESUMPTION OF MIDEASTFOR SHIP VISITS HERE THAN
DIMINUTION QATARI PIQUE OVER ALLEGED US INVASION THREATS A YEAR
AGO. NEITHER SHOULD GOQ'S CAUTIOUS POSTURE TOWARD PROPOSED GULF
SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS BE INTERPRETED AS FAVORABLE TO CONTINUED
US NAVAL PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN.

3. ON THIS ISSUE, QATARIS CAN BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THEIR USUAL
PATTERN OF HEADS DOWN DIPLOMACY. THEY MOST LIKELY TO SUPPORT
PASSIVELY WHATEVER CONSENSUS DEVELOPS AMONG REGIONAL STATES
ON MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE, BE IT FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE.
PAGANELLI

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NNN

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